

Message Text

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ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-01 INR-07
L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15
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FM AMEMBASSY MADRID
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 9662
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AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS
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USMISSION NATO
USMISSION EC BRUSSELS
AMEMBASSY STOCKHOLM

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E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: PINT, PFOR, SP
SUBJECT: COMMENTS ON SPAIN AT SOCIALIST INTERNATIONAL'S LONDON
MEETING

SUMMARY: SI LEADERS REPORTEDLY EXPRESSED OPTIMISM AND
CONCERN OVER SPANISH DEVELOPMENTS. PSOE'S GONZALEZ
REITERATED THAT HIS PARTY WOULD NOT CONDITION ITS
ELECTORAL PARTICIPATION ON THE LEGALIZATION OF THE PCE.
END SUMMARY.

1. ACCORDING TO THE MADRID PRESS, SOCIALIST INTERNATIONAL
(SI) LEADERS MEETING LAST WEEK IN LONDON DEVOTED CONSID-
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ERABLE ATTENTION TO THE SUBJECT OF SPAIN, INCLUDING THE
PRESENTATION OF AN ANALYSIS OF THE SPANISH SITUATION BY
PSOE SECGEN FELIPE GONZALEZ, ON WHICH HE REPORTEDLY
"CAUTIONED...AGAINST ANY EXCESS OF OPTIMISM CON-
CERNING THE SPANISH PROCESS" AND ADVISED HIS AUDIENCE
TO "REMEMBER THAT THE SPANISH CAETANOS ARE NOT IN
EXILE."

2. AT THE CLOSE OF THEIR MEETING, THE SI LEADERS REPORTEDLY ISSUED A STATEMENT, OBVIOUSLY REFLECTING GONZALEZ'S POINT OF VIEW, TO THE EFFECT THAT THEY VIEWED "WITH OPTIMISM THE EVOLUTION OF THE SPANISH SITUATION BUT OBSERVED WITH CONCERN THAT THE PERSISTENCE OF AUTOCRATIC RESIDUES COULD BE A NEGATIVE INFLUENCE ON THE FAIRNESS OF THE COMING ELECTIONS... WHICH WILL BE DETERMINING FOR FUTURE RELATIONS BETWEEN SPAIN AND OTHER WEST EUROPEAN COUNTRIES." THE LEADERS IN ATTENDANCE ALSO REPORTEDLY REITERATED THEIR "SOLIDARITY" WITH GONZALEZ'S PSOE.

3. IN A SIMILAR VEIN, SI PRESIDENT WILLY BRANDT, IN A POST-MEETING ENCOUNTER WITH THE PRESS, REPORTEDLY SAID THAT "I BELIEVE THERE ARE SERIOUS REASONS TO SHARE THE CONCERNS OF FELIPE GONZALEZ ABOUT SPAIN'S DEMOCRATIC FUTURE," AND HE ADDED HIS PERSONAL CRITICISM OF THE GOS'S LEGALIZATION OF THE PSOE'S "HISTORICAL" FACTION (PSOE-H) AS AN ATTEMPT TO CONFUSE THE ELECTORATE.

4. GONZALEZ, FOR HIS PART, REITERATED TO THE PRESS THAT THE PSOE WOULD NOT "MORTGAGE" ITS FUTURE BY CONDITIONING ITS ELECTORAL PARTICIPATION ON THE LEGALIZATION OF THE PCE AND THAT ANY ALLIANCE BETWEEN THE PSOE AND THE PCE WAS OUT OF THE QUESTION (THE PSOE "HAS NEVER CONTEMPLATED ANY ELECTORAL ALLIANCE WITH NON-SOCIALISTS.") HE REPORTEDLY ADDED THAT IF ELECTORAL FAIRNESS WERE "GUARANTEED" HE WOULD HAVE NO LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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PROBLEM WITH SUAREZ'S RUNNING, BUT THAT THE BEST PROOF OF THE GOVT'S NEUTRALITY WOULD BE IN SUAREZ'S NOT HEADING UP ANY POLITICAL OPTION IN THE ELECTIONS. EATON

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Decaption Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am
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Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 22 May 2009
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Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
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